Amendments to the Claims

The current listing of the claims replaces all previous amendments and listings of the claims.

1. (Original) A method for removing wrinkles formed on a web which is continuously transported through a plurality of guide members, said plurality of guide members including a crown roller having the diameter which is gradually increased toward the center thereof, the method comprising the steps of:

placing the crown roller in a transport path of the web and downstream of a first zone in which wrinkles are desirably removed; and

deforming the web in a second zone located downstream of the crown roller so as to at least decrease the width of the web, whereby the wrinkles in the first zone are removed.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for removing wrinkles, according to Claim 1, wherein the deformation of the web to decrease the width thereof is performed by lifting up or pushing down ~~the~~ two ~~end portions~~ side edges of the web.

3. (Original) A device for removing wrinkles formed on a web which is continuously transported through a plurality of guide members, said plurality of guide members comprising:

a crown roller disposed in a transport path of the web and downstream of a first zone, in which wrinkles are desirably removed, the crown roller having the diameter which is gradually increased toward the center thereof; and

web-deforming device which is disposed in a second zone located downstream of the crown roller so as to at least decrease the width of the web.

4. (Currently Amended) A device for removing wrinkles, according to Claim 3, wherein the web-deforming device is deforming device for lifting up or pushing down ~~the~~ two ~~end portions~~ side edges of the web.

5. (Original) A method for coating a web which is continuously transported through a plurality of guide members, said plurality of guide member including a crown roller having the diameter which is gradually increased toward the center thereof, the method comprising the steps of:

placing the crown roller in a transport path of the web and downstream of a first zone in which coating is performed; and

deforming the web in a second zone located downstream of the crown roller so as to at least decrease the width of the web for removing wrinkles in the first zone, whereby the coating is performed in the first zone in which the wrinkles are removed.

6. (Currently Amended) A method for coating a web, according to Claim 5, wherein the deformation of the web to decrease the width thereof is performed by lifting up or pushing down ~~the~~ two ~~end portions~~ side edges of the web.

7. (Original) A method for coating a web, according to Claim 5, wherein the coating is performed by an extrusion coating device.

8. (New) A method according to claim 1, further comprising:

adjusting an orientation of an auxiliary roller to deform the web in the second zone.

9. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the auxiliary roller is disposed to press on same surface of the web pressed on by the crown roller.

10. (New) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

coating a surface of the web opposite to the surface on which the crown and auxiliary rollers press.

11. (New) A method according to claim 10, wherein the web is coated in the first zone.

12. (New) A device according to claim 3, wherein the web-deforming device comprises an auxiliary roller adjustably oriented to deform the web in the second zone.

13. (New) A device according to claim 12, wherein the auxiliary roller is disposed to press on same surface of the web pressed on by the crown roller.

14. (New) A device according to claim 13, further comprising:

a coating device configured to coat a surface of the web opposite to the surface on which the crown and auxiliary rollers press.

15. (New) A device according to claim 14, wherein the coating device is disposed in the first zone.

16. (New) A method according to claim 5, further comprising:

adjusting an orientation of an auxiliary roller to deform the web in the second zone.

17. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein the auxiliary roller is disposed to press on same surface of the web pressed on by the crown roller.

18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein a surface of the web opposite to the surface on which the crown and auxiliary rollers press is coated.

19. (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein deforming the web to decrease the width of the web comprises pushing two side edges of the web on a die.

20. (New) A device according to claim 3, wherein the web-deforming device to decrease the width of the web comprises a die configured to push two side edges of the web.